

Test Practice

Contents of the Dead Man's Pocket

Complete the sample test item below. The box at the right explains why three of these choices are not correct.

Sample Test Item	Explanation of the Correct Answer
<p>One conflict of the story takes place between—</p> <p>A Tom and his boss</p> <p>B Tom and his own ambition</p> <p>C Tom and his wife</p> <p>D Tom and a book of matches</p>	<p>The correct answer is <i>B</i>.</p> <p><i>A</i> is incorrect because Tom's boss is not mentioned in the story. <i>C</i> is incorrect because Tom and his wife haven't argued. <i>D</i> is also incorrect; Tom has trouble lighting the matches, but the matches present only a minor difficulty.</p>

DIRECTIONS: Answer the following questions by circling the letter of the best response.



**Reading
Standard 3.4
(Grade 8
Review)**

Analyze the relevance of the setting (e.g., place, time, customs) to the mood, tone, and meaning of the text.

**Reading
Standard 3.6**

Analyze and trace an author's development of time and sequence, including the use of complex literary devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashbacks).

- The **setting** of "Contents of the Dead Man's Pocket" provides—

A beauty **C** suspense

B humor **D** romance
- All of the following describe Tom's **internal conflicts** *except*—

F deciding between work and the movies

G overcoming his fear

H fighting the temptation to look down

J rescuing the paper from the ledge
- In the story's sequence of events, which event happens last?

A Tom breaks the window.

B Tom lights the matches.

C Clare goes to the movies.

D Tom steps out onto the ledge.
- The author slows down time by—

F using flashback and foreshadowing

G describing the events moment by moment

H setting the story on the eleventh-floor ledge

J focusing on one character
- At the **resolution** of "Contents of the Dead Man's Pocket" Tom realizes that—

A work is less important

B work is more important

C family and work are of equal importance

D family is less important

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Prefixes

DIRECTIONS: Match each prefix with its definition by writing the correct letter on the line.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1. ____ <i>re-</i> | a. no; not |
| 2. ____ <i>un-</i> | b. forward |
| 3. ____ <i>sub-</i> | c. again |
| 4. ____ <i>pro-</i> | d. below |



Reading Standard 1.1

Identify and use the literal and figurative meanings of words and understand word derivations.

Vocabulary in Context

DIRECTIONS: Complete the paragraph by writing a word from the word box to fit in each sentence below. Not all words will be used.

Word Box

projection
discarding
confirmation
exhalation
incomprehensible
rebounded
unimpeded
irrelevantly
interminable
imperceptibly

Tom crept on the ledge, holding his breath, then let out a great (1) _____ of air. So (2) _____ did he move that Tom felt as if he were standing still. He had been on the ledge, he thought, an (3) _____ length of time. However, his burning cigarette was (4) _____ that he had actually been there only a few minutes. Staring at his unreadable, (5) _____ scrawl on the sheet of paper, he wondered why the work had seemed so important.



Before You Go On...

Check your Standards Mastery at the back of this book.